

REMARKS

The above preliminary amendment is made to remove multiple dependencies from claims 3 and 5-8.

A new abstract page is supplied to conform to that appearing on the publication page of the WIPO application, but the new Abstract is typed on a separate page as required by U.S. practice.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Marked-up Copy".

Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

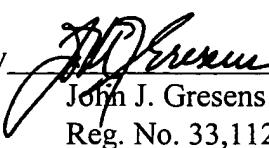
If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, John J. Gresens (Reg. No. 33,112), at (612) 371.5265.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 3 and 5-8 as follows:

A1
Sub B2

3. (Amended) An insulating composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the multimodal ethylene copolymer has a viscosity of 2500-7500 Pa.s at 185°C and a shear rate of 10 s⁻¹, 1000-2200 Pa.s at 135°C and a shear rate of 100 s⁻¹, and 250-400 Pa.s at 135°C and a shear rate of 1000 s⁻¹.

A2
Sub B1
Sub B2
Sub B3
Sub B4
Sub B5
Sub B6
Sub B7
Sub B8
Sub B9
Sub B10
Sub B11
Sub B12
Sub B13
Sub B14
Sub B15
Sub B16
Sub B17
Sub B18
Sub B19
Sub B20

5. (Amended) An insulating composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the comonomer of the copolymer is at least one member selected from the group consisting of propylene, 1-butene, 4-methyl-1-pentene, 1-hexene, and 1-octene.

6. (Amended) An insulating composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the MWD is 4-5.

7. (Amended) An insulating composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the multimodal ethylene copolymer is a bimodal ethylene copolymer comprising 30-60 % by weight of a low molecular weight ethylene copolymer fraction and 70-40 % by weight of a high molecular weight ethylene copolymer fraction.

8. (Amended) An insulating composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the multimodal ethylene copolymer includes a low molecular weight ethylene copolymer fraction having a density of 0.900-0.950 g/cm³ and a MFR₂ of 50-100 g/10 min.

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3. An insulating composition as claimed in [any one of claims 1-2,] claim 1, wherein the multimodal ethylene copolymer has a viscosity of

2500-7500 Pa.s at 135°C and a shear rate of 10 s⁻¹,

1000-2200 Pa.s at 135°C and a shear rate of 100 s⁻¹, and

250-400 Pa.s at 135°C and a shear rate of 1000 s⁻¹.

5. An insulating composition as claimed in [any one of claims 1-4,] claim 1, wherein the comonomer of the copolymer is at least one member selected from the group consisting of propylene, 1-butene, 4-methyl-1-pentene, 1-hexene, and 1-octene.

6. An insulating composition as claimed in [any one of claims 1-5,] claim 1, wherein the MWD is 4-5.

7. An insulating composition as claimed in [any one of claims 1-6,] claim 1, wherein the multimodal ethylene copolymer is a bimodal ethylene copolymer comprising 30-60 % by weight of a low molecular weight ethylene copolymer fraction and 70-40 % by weight of a high molecular weight ethylene copolymer fraction.

8. An insulating composition as claimed in [any one of claims 1-7,] claim 1, wherein the multimodal ethylene copolymer includes a low molecular weight ethylene copolymer fraction having a density of 0.900-0.950 g/cm³ and a MFR₂ of 50-100 g/10 min.